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Agenda item 112

Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Haile Selassie **Getachew** (Ethiopia)

I. Introduction

1. The previous recommendations made by the Fifth Committee to the General Assembly under agenda item 112 appear in the reports of the Committee contained in document A/57/649 and Add.1.

2. The Fifth Committee resumed its consideration of the item at its 39th, 49th, 50th, 52nd to 54th and 56th meetings, on 3 March, 12, 16, 20 and 22 May and 4 June 2003. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/57/SR.39, 49, 50, 52-54 and 56).

3. For its further consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

Salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General and salary and pensionable remuneration of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

Twenty-sixth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/57/7/Add.25)

Conditions of service and compensation for officials, other than Secretariat officials, serving the General Assembly: full-time members of the International Civil Service Commission and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions

Report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/57/35)

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Conditions of service and compensation for officials other than Secretariat officials: members of the International Court of Justice, judges of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and judges of the International Tribunal for Rwanda

Report of the Secretary-General (A/C.5/57/36)

Oral report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (see A/C.5/57/SR.49)

Financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

Report of the Secretary-General (A/57/797)

Twenty-eighth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/57/7/Add.27)

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/56/907)

Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

Report of the Secretary-General (A/57/761)

Twenty-seventh report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/57/7/Add.26)

Standards of accommodation for air travel

Report of the Secretary-General (A/57/485)

Oral report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (see A/C.5/57/SR.39)

Report of the Joint Inspection Unit entitled "Support costs related to extrabudgetary activities in organizations of the United Nations system"

Notes by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Joint Inspection Unit and his comments and those of the United Nations System Chief Executives Board for Coordination thereon (A/57/442 and Add.1)

Report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/57/434, paras. 5 and 6)

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.74

4. At the 56th meeting, on 4 June, the representative of Argentina, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of the informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Salary and retirement allowance of

the Secretary-General and salary and pensionable remuneration of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme" (A/C.5/57/L.74).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 16, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.88

6. At the 56th meeting, on 4 June, the representative of Belgium, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of the informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/C.5/57/L.88).

7. At the same meeting, before the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement in explanation of position was made by the representative of the United States of America (see A/C.5/57/SR.56).

8. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 16, draft resolution II).

9. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Morocco (on behalf of States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China), Peru (on behalf of the Rio Group) and the Dominican Republic (see A/C.5/57/SR.56).

C. Draft resolution A/C.5/57/L.90

10. At the 56th meeting, on 4 June, the representative of Romania, Vice-Chairman of the Committee and coordinator of the informal consultations on this question, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO" (A/C.5/57/L.90).

11. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft resolution without a vote (see para. 16, draft resolution III).

12. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement in explanation of position was made by the representative of Cuba (see A/C.5/57/SR.56).

D. Draft decision A/C.5/57/L.64

13. At the 56th meeting, on 4 June, the representative of Ukraine coordinator of the informal consultations on this question, introduced, on behalf of the Chairman, a draft decision entitled "Standards of accommodation for air travel" (A/C.5/57/L.64).

14. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted the draft decision without a vote (see para. 17).

E. Questions deferred for future consideration

15. In connection with reports submitted under agenda item 112 "Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003", which were deferred for future consideration, attention is drawn to the draft decision contained in the report of the Fifth Committee under agenda item 111, "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations" (A/57/648/Add.2).

III. Recommendations of the Fifth Committee

16. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General and salary and pensionable remuneration of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[1]

1. *Concurs* with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions concerning the salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General contained in paragraph 9 of its report;[1]

2. *Also concurs* with the recommendation of the Advisory Committee concerning the salary and pensionable remuneration of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme contained in paragraph 9 of its report;

3. *Approves* the amendment to paragraph 1 of annex I to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations with effect from 1 January 2003, as set forth in the annex to the present resolution;

4. *Requests* the Advisory Committee to submit proposals to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session with a view to formalizing conditions and procedures related to the salary and retirement allowance of the Secretary-General and the salary and pensionable remuneration of the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme.

Annex

Amendment to paragraph 1 of annex I to the Staff Regulations of the United Nations

In paragraph 1, the last sentence, "With effect from 1 January 1998, the Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme shall receive a gross salary of US$ 175,344 per annum", should be deleted.

[1] A/57/7/Add.25. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/57/7).

Draft resolution II
Financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its decision 57/580 of 20 December 2002,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women[2] and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions,[3]

Having also considered the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,[4]

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the financial situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women[2] and of the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;[3]

2. *Takes note also* of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women;[4]

3. *Regrets* that the nomination of a Director of the Institute, a post classified at the D-2 level, has not yet taken place, impairing the capacity of the Institute to function properly;

4. *Urges* the Secretary-General to appoint immediately a Director at the D-2 level, to be based at the headquarters of the Institute in the Dominican Republic, and to inform thereafter the Working Group on the Future Operations of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women of the designation of the nominee;

5. *Approves* the release of the amount of 250,000 United States dollars that was set aside in the contingency fund for the biennium 2002-2003, in conformity with the provisions of General Assembly decision 57/580, as an additional provision for the continuation of the core activities of the Institute in 2003, and decides to appropriate the amount of 250,000 dollars for this purpose;

6. *Recalls* its resolutions 41/213 of 19 December 1986 and 42/211 of 21 December 1987, and in this connection stresses that the contingency fund is not intended to be used as a recurring source of programme funding;

7. *Requests* the Institute to report to the General Assembly, one year after the appointment of a Director, on its programme of work and on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services;

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[2] A/57/797.

[3] A/57/7/Add.27. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7.*

[4] See A/56/907.

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report further to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the financial situation of the Institute.

Draft resolution III
Outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO

The General Assembly

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the outline of the proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 for the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO[5] and concurs with the observations and recommendations of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon;[6]

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide for documentation services in Arabic and Chinese for the Joint Advisory Group of the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO in the proposed programme budget of the Centre for the biennium 2004-2005;

3. *Recalls* its decision 57/572 of 20 December 2002, and requests the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with the International Trade Centre UNCTAD/WTO and the World Trade Organization for a joint review of the administrative arrangements for the Centre and to submit a report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

4. *Reaffirms* paragraph 30 of its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001.

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17. The Fifth Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Standards of accommodation for air travel

The General Assembly:

(a) Takes note of the report of the Secretary-General on standards of accommodation for air travel[7] and the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions thereon;[8]

(b) Requests the Secretary-General to submit his report on standards of accommodation for air travel to the General Assembly on a biennial basis.

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[5] A/57/761.

[6] A/57/7/Add.26. For the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 7* (A/57/7).

[7] A/57/485.

[8] See A/C.5/57/SR.39.